Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of content delivery in a network, comprising:

associating devices in a Domain Name System (DNS) with cache server systems located in the network and maintaining on each of the cache server systems content stored on an origin server;

assigning to the DNS devices a common address;

advertising, by each of the DNS devices, the common address within the network to indicate that the content is available for retrieval from each of the cache server systems by end user systems communicatively connected to the network;

monitoring one or more load characteristics of one or more of the cache server systems in the network;

determining if one or more of the load characteristics exceeds a predefined overload metric; and

for each cache server system having a load characteristic that exceeds the predefined overload metric, discontinuing advertising of the common address by the ~~cache server system by an~~ associated DNS device.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the common address is an anycast address.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the advertising act comprises:

sending routing information to a plurality of routers in the network in accordance with the Border Gateway Protocol (BGP).

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cache server systems are geographically distributed across the network.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the DNS devices are collocated with the cache server systems with which the DNS devices are associated.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein each cache server system and associated DNS devices are located in a different Internet Service Provider Point of Presence.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein each cache server system and associated DNS device is located at or near an entry point of the network.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the cache server systems comprises at least two cache serves connected in a cluster, and wherein the at least two cache servers are coupled to a switch usable to select from among the at least two cache serves based on a selection policy.

10-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising after discontinuing advertisement by a DNS device for an associated cache server system having a load characteristic that exceeds the predefined overload metric, restarting advertising when the load characteristic decreases below the predefined overload metric.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising, if a DNS device discontinues advertisement of it associated cache server system, continuing to use the cache server system by another system that has already resolved a DNS name to the DNS device, until the DNS name expires.

16. (New) The method as recited in claim 3, further comprising storing, by each of the routers, multiple routes in association with the common address in a routing table.

17. (New) The method as recited in claim 16, further comprising:

    receiving a DNS resolution request at one of the routers, wherein the request specifies the common address and requests resolution of a DNS name;

    selecting a route representing the shortest network distance to one of the DNS devices; and

    resolving the DNS name to a unique address of the cache server system associated with the one of the DSN devices.